

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A rubber compound comprising at least one solid optionally halogenated butyl elastomer and at least one nanoclay.
- 5 2. A compound according to Claim 1, wherein the butyl is a halogenated butyl elastomer.
3. A compound according to Claim 2, wherein the halogenated butyl is a brominated butyl elastomer.
4. A compound according to Claim 1, wherein the nanoclay is a montmorillonite that optionally has been organically modified.
- 10 5. A compound according to Claim 4, wherein the nanoclay has been organically modified.
6. A compound according to Claim 1, wherein the compound comprises in the range from 0.01 – 10 phr of nanoclay(s).
- 15 7. A compound according to Claim 1, wherein the compound further comprises a curing system.
8. A compound according to Claim 7, wherein the curing system comprises sulfur and/or a sulfur compound.
9. A process for preparing a compound according to Claim 1, wherein
- 20 the nanoclay is admixed with the optionally halogenated butyl elastomer and optionally further components.
10. A process according to Claim 9, wherein the compound is vulcanized subsequent to mixing.